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a supporting arm having a therapeutic member, the supporting arm being pivotally supported on the massaging apparatus and the supporting arm being movable along a body of a user, wherein a position of a specific portion of the body of the user with respect to the massaging apparatus is determined from a relation between a vertical position of the supporting arm and a pivotal position of the supporting arm.

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40. (Amended) A massaging apparatus comprising:

a supporting arm having a therapeutic member, the supporting arm being pivotally supported on the massaging apparatus and the supporting arm being movable along a body of a user; and

a pivotal-position-detecting sensor for detecting that the supporting arm has reached a prescribed range of pivotal movement.

41. (Amended) A massaging apparatus comprising:

a supporting arm having a therapeutic member, the supporting arm being pivotally supported on the massaging apparatus and the supporting arm being movable along a body of a user; and

a pivotal-position-detecting sensor for detecting a pivotal position of the supporting arm.

42. (Amended) A massaging apparatus comprising:

a supporting arm having a therapeutic member, the supporting arm being pivotally supported on the massaging apparatus and the supporting arm being movable along a body of a user, wherein a position of a specific portion of the user with respect to the massaging apparatus is determined from a vertical position of the supporting arm at a moment when a pivotal position of the supporting arm has reached a prescribed range.

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43. (Amended) The massaging apparatus as set forth in claim 40, wherein the pivotal-position-detecting sensor comprises an optical sensor having a light emitting element and a light receiving element, and whether or not the supporting arm has reached the prescribed range of pivotal movement is detected by determining if light from the light emitting element has been received by the light receiving element.

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48. (Amended) The massaging apparatus as set forth in claim 39, wherein the position of the specific portion of the body of the user to be determined is a position of a shoulder of the body of the user.

49. (Amended) The massaging apparatus as set forth in claim 42, wherein the position of the specific portion of the body of the user to be determined is a position of a shoulder of the body of the user.

50. (Amended) The massaging apparatus as set forth in claim 40, further comprising a second supporting arm and a second pivotal-position-detecting sensor, wherein the supporting arm and the second supporting arm constitute a pair of left and right supporting arms, and wherein the pivotal-position-detecting sensor is associated with the supporting arm and the second pivotal-position-detecting sensor is associated with the second supporting arm.

51. (Amended) The massaging apparatus as set forth in claim 41, further comprising a second supporting arm and a second pivotal-position-detecting sensor, wherein the supporting arm and the second supporting arm constitute a pair of left and right supporting arms, and wherein the pivotal-position-detecting sensor is associated with the supporting arm and the second pivotal-position-detecting sensor is associated with the second supporting arm.